

REMARKS

Claims 2-121 are in the application. Applicant herein is updating the title to reflect the allowed claims. Applicant also is correcting certain informalities noted in certain of the claims. It is submitted that the amendments herein do not change the substance of the allowance but instead merely correct informalities that became apparent upon a final review of the claims.

Applicant also noted in reviewing the claims from this and other patents/applications of Applicant that a related application (09/865,801, now USP 6,726,476) involve claims relating to determining the optical characteristics of a dental object using an imaging element or camera with an "in-field" calibration or reference standard (color information is determined from the imaging element or camera). While these claims do not relate to a system having both an imaging element/camera and a separate spectrometer implement or mechanism to determine spectral information as in the claims of the present invention, Applicant is citing prior art from this related application for consideration by the Examiner.

Applicant re-confirms its priority based on, the following: this application is a continuation of U.S. application Serial No. 08/909,664, filed August 12, 1997, now U.S. Patent No. 6,264,470, which is a continuation of application Serial No. 08/582,054 filed January 2, 1996, now U.S. Patent No. 5,759,030. This claim for priority was addressed in an earlier amendment (mailed June June 14, 2004).

No new matter has been added.

If there are any questions regarding this amendment, Applicant's attorney requests an opportunity to discuss such questions with the Examiner by way of a telephone interview. It is submitted that the foregoing amendments should position the application in condition for allowance, and such is respectfully requested.

Please charge any additional fees due, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No.
50-0251.

Respectfully submitted,



Alan R. Loudermilk
Registration No. 32,788
Attorney for Applicant(s)

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P.O. Box 3607
Los Altos, CA 94024-0607
408-868-1516

I hereby certify that the foregoing is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service, postage prepaid, to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date indicated above.

